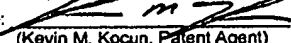


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: June 23, 2005

Signature: 
(Kevin M. Kocun, Patent Agent)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-455 CONT VI

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: ::
Zubok et al. :
Application No.: 10/776,471 ::: Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: February 11, 2004 ::: Examiner: C. L. Miller
For: CERVICAL DISC REPLACEMENT :

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 3, 2005, finally rejecting claims 1, 3, 5-13, 15 and 16, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Please
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